

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 04023 062220Z
ACTION ARA-14

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STADIS////////////////////////////////

DEPARTMENT PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR PHIL WISE

FOR ARA/PAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY), PN, EWWT

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: MEETING WITH CANAL ZONE
RESIDENTS

1. THE CURRENT TENTATIVE SCHEDULE PROVIDES FOR THE
PRESIDENT TO MEET WITH CANAL ZONE RESIDENTS ON JUNE 17.
THIS IS BEING COORDINATED WITH DR. RICHARD CHEVILLE,
PRESIDENT OF THE PACIFIC CIVIC COUNCILS OF THE CANAL
ZONE. AS DR. CHEVILLE ENVISAGES THE MEETING, HE AND
OTHER CANAL ZONE AND LABOR LEADERS WOULD INVITE
PRESIDENT CARTER TO MEET WITH THEM. THOSE ATTENDING
WOULD BE CHOSEN BY DR. CHEVILLE AND APPROPRIATE LABOR
LEADERS IN THE ZONE. THEY WILL COORDINATE THE LIST
WITH THE CANAL ZONE AUTHORITIES, WHITE HOUSE ADVANCE,
ETC., BUT THE GUEST LIST WILL FLOW FROM THEM, NOT
A USG AGENCY.

2. WE ARE CONFIDENT NONE OF THE GROUP WILL BE RUDE TO
THE PRESIDENT, BUT THEY CAN BE EXPECTED TO HAVE SOME
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PAGE 02 PANAMA 04023 062220Z

HARD QUESTIONS. SOME OF THESE QUESTIONS WILL BE
RHETORICAL IN NATURE -- EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN AND
FRUSTRATION RATHER THAN QUESTIONS WITH SPECIFIC
ANSWERS. OTHER QUESTIONS WILL BE MORE POINTED. WE
EXPECT MOST QUESTIONS TO REFLECT AN UNDERLYING FEELING THAT
PANCANAL EMPLOYEES HAVE BEEN MISUNDERSTOOD AND THAT THEIR
LOYAL SERVICE TO KEEP THE CANAL RUNNING HAS NOT BEEN

ADEQUATELY APPRECIATED.

3. THE FOLLOWING ARE OUR GUESSES AS TO THE MOST
LIKELY AREAS OF QUESTIONING:

- A. WHY THE TREATY, IN THE FIRST PLACE?
- B. CAN THE PANAMANIAN REALLY DO THE JOB?
- C. WITH THE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN PANAMA,
CAN WE BE ASSURED OF PROTECTION BY THE US GOVERNMENT
UNDER THE TREATIES?
- D. THE PANAMANIAN COURT SYSTEM IS NOT ADEQUATE BY
U.S. STANDARDS. WHAT IS MEANT BY "CRIMES AGAINST THE
SECURITY OF THE PANAMANIAN STATE," AS MENTIONED IN THE
AGREEMENT IN IMPLEMENTATION OF PART III (E.G., ART.
XIX (4) (B))?
- E. HOW CAN WE WHO RUN THE CANAL BE ASSURED OF
SUFFICIENT COOPERATION FROM THE PANAMAIS IN THOSE
AREAS WHICH THEY ARE TAKING OVER, E.G., DRY DOCKS,
PORT, RAILROAD?
- F. HOW HARD IS THE ADMINISTRATION GOING TO PUSH THE
CONGRESS TO OBTAIN THE BENEFITS IN THE DRAFT
LEGISLATION?
- G. CAN TEACHERS AND OTHERS WHOSE FUNCTIONS ARE
TRANSFERRED TO DOD BE ASSURED THAT THEIR PRIVILEGES
WILL NOT BE DIMINISHED AS A RESULT OF THE TREATY?
I.E., CAN WE BELIEVE THE TREATY WHEN IT SAYS THAT EVERY
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PAGE 03 PANAMA 04023 062220Z

- EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO ASSURE THAT WE DO NOT LOSE
BENEFITS (ART. X)?
- H. WHAT IS BEING DONE TO ASSURE THE BEST AVAILABLE
DEAL FOR THOSE TRANSFERRING TO OTHER USG AGENCIES?
 - I. WILL THE IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION GIVE SPECIAL
IMMIGRATION RIGHTS TO PANAMANIAN EMPLOYEES AND
RETIREES OF THE PANCANAL COMPANY? WHAT WILL THE U.S.
GOVERNMENT DO TO PROTECT THE JOBS OF PANAMANIAN WHO
WORK IN FUNCTIONS BEING TRANSFERRED TO THE PANAMANIAN
GOVERNMENT?
 - J. WILL DUAL NATIONALS BE TREATED AS AMERICAN
CITIZENS IN ALL CASES BY THE PANAMANIAN GOVERNMENT?
 - K. IN CASES WHERE HOUSING REVERTS UNDER THE TREATY,
WHAT HAPPENS TO US?
 - L. WILL WE BE EXEMPT FROM U.S. TAXES?
4. IF THE DEPARTMENT NEEDS THE POST'S HELP IN
ANSWERING ANY OF THESE QUESTIONS, PLEASE LET US KNOW
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. OUR RESOURCES ARE, OF COURSE,
LARGELY TAKEN UP WITH THE MECHANICS OF THE PRESIDENT'S
VISIT, BUT WE WILL DO WHAT WE CAN. JORDEN

NOTE BY OC/T: PASSED NSCE.

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